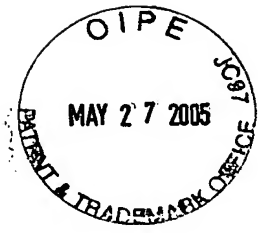


Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1 only, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet



REMARKS

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 27, 2004.

Drawing Objections (Fig. 1)

FIG. 1 is objected because it includes the reference "82" not mentioned in the description. In response to this objection, we insert the description of element 82 in paragraph [0035] of the specification. No new matter is introduced by the amendment to paragraph [0035] since the inserted description is clearly apparent from FIG. 1.

FIG. 1 is also objected to because the word "atmosphere" is misspelled. A replacement FIG. 1 is provided, wherein the word "atmosph" is corrected to --atmosphere--.

Objection to the Specification

In response to the Examiner's objection to the specification, the first line of paragraph [0027] is amended to read "The large diameter end portion 28," to correct an obvious typographical error.

Objection to the Claims (Claims 1 and 2)

In response to the Examiner's objection to claims 1 and 2, claim 1 is amended to remove the hyphen in the term "pressure-receiving" in lines 14 and 20 of claim 1.

Claim Rejections – Indefiniteness (Claims 1 and 2)

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to address the indefiniteness rejections. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now definite within the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections – Obviousness in view of Kojima (Claims 1 and 2)

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected as being obvious over the disclosure of Kojima. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the recitation therein, and it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 2 are patentably distinct over Kojima.

In particular, claim 1 is amended to clarify that a partition rubber plate partially defines at a first surface thereof the pressure receiving chamber, while partially defining at an other surface thereof an oscillating chamber, and the oscillating rubber elastic plate partially defines at a first surface thereof the oscillating chamber, while partially defining at an other surface thereof the working air chamber. The reference is silent about this feature, and the present invention exhibits an advantageous effect owing to this feature.

For example, subject matter according to claim 1 provides a fluid-filled engine mount capable of exhibiting a high-damping effect against low, medium and high frequency vibrations, while having a simple and compact structure. See paragraph [0010] of the specification.

The partition rubber plate partially defines the pressure receiving chamber at its first surface, while partially defining the oscillating chamber at its other surface. The oscillating rubber elastic plate partially defines the oscillating chamber at its first surface, while partially defining the working air chamber at its other surface. With this arrangement, the fluid-filled engine mount is made simple and compact in structure, while being capable of exhibiting excellent damping effects with respect to low, medium and high frequency vibrations.

By contrast, Kojima fails to disclose or suggest the structure of the present invention as defined in amended claim 1. Since Kojima needs a central gas chamber 106 to operate the device, the structure of the device is inevitably complicated, thereby requiring a relatively large size of the device. In accordance with the subject matter recited in claim 1, a central gas chamber needed in Kojima is not required, making it possible to create a sophisticated fluid-filled vibration damping device with a simple and compact structure. Further, none of the cited references discloses or suggests the structure recited in amended claim 1.

For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 1, and also of claim 2 depending therefrom, is neither anticipated by Kojima, nor would have been obvious over those skilled in the art by Kojima and other cited references taken in combination.

New Claim 3

Claim 3 has been added to more specifically recite the arrangement of some of the elements. More particular, new claim 3 recites the pressure receiving chamber, the oscillating chamber and the working air chamber being axially arranged in this order from a side of the first mounting member.

It is further respectfully submitted that such a feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by Kojima.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Hodes', written over the printed name.

Alan S. Hodes
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